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obtaining a profile having a plurality of sets of colorimetric data
which correspond to respective light sources;
inputting a viewing condition;
selecting colorimetric data from the plurality of colorimetric data in
accordance with the input viewing condition; and
generating data for color matching based on the selected colorimetric
data.

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 remain in this application, of which Claims 1, 8, 14, 16, 18 and 20 are independent. Claims 1, 4-6, 8, 10-18 and 20 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention.

Initially, Applicant notes that a Claim To Priority and certified copies of the priority documents for this application were filed on November 4, 1999. Applicant respectfully requests acknowledgment of the claim for foreign priority and the receipt of the certified copies.

In addition, a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and a corresponding Form PTO-1449 were filed on August 21, 2001. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to return an initialled copy of that Form PTO-1449, indicating that the references cited thereon were considered.

Claim 13, which was objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c), as being a duplicate of the claim from which it depended, has been amended to depend from Claim 8 instead of from Claim 7, obviating this objection.

Claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 8, 10, 13, 14, 16 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U. S. Patent 5,754,682 (Kato), and Claims 2, 9, 15, 17 and 19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious from that patent. Claims 5 and 11 were rejected under Section 103(a) as being obvious from *Kato* in view of U.S. Patent 6,201,893 (Shiraiwa et al.), and Claims 6, 12, 20 and 21 as being obvious from *Kato* in view of U.S. Patent 6,046,723 (Daniels et al).

The aspects of the present invention recited in the various independent claims is related to conjecturing colorimetric data or generating data for color matching, which corresponds to an input viewing condition, based on existing colorimetric data. In these aspects of the present invention, in order to make a precise conjecture of the colorimetric data or to generate the data for color matching, a selection is made of one of the existing colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition, and a conjecture is then made as to the colorimetric data, or data is generated for color matching, based on the selected colorimetric data. In other words, according to the present independent claims, a processing of the existing *colorimetric* data is performed in accordance with the input viewing condition; there is no need for processing of the *input image* data as part of the conjecturing or generating of the data for color matching.

For example, independent Claim 1 is directed to an image processing method in which there is obtained a plurality of sets of colorimetric data which correspond

to respective light sources. A viewing condition is input, and colorimetric data is selected from the plurality of sets of colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition. Then a conjecture is made of colorimetric data corresponding to the input viewing condition based on the selected colorimetric data.

Each of the other independent claims contains recitations to which the following remarks as well as to Claim 1.

Katoh relates to processing performed in accordance with visual environment parameters. In Fig. 7 of *Katoh*, input RGB data is converted to XYZ data, the XYZ data is converted to $L^*M^*S^*$ data based on a visual environment parameter, and the $L^*M^*S^*$ data is converted to XYZ data based on another visual environment parameter. The visual environment parameter corresponds to a viewing condition of the present invention. However, this processing done by *Katoh* is performed *on input image data* such as the RGB data shown in Fig. 7. Nothing has been found, or pointed out, in *Katoh* that would teach or suggest any processing performed on *existing colorimetric* data, as is recited in each of the independent claims. For at least that reason, each of those claims is believed to be clearly patentable over *Katoh*.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicant's opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against the independent claims herein. Those claims are therefore believed patentable over the art of record.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the

same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

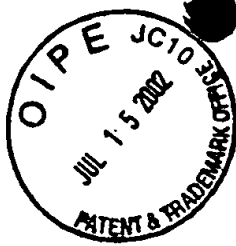
Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION MARKED TO SHOW CLAIM CHANGES

1. (Amended) An image processing method comprising the steps of:
obtaining [a profile having] a plurality of sets of colorimetric data
which [depend on a plurality of] correspond to respective light sources;
inputting a viewing condition;
selecting colorimetric data from the plurality of colorimetric data in
accordance with the input viewing condition; and
conjecturing colorimetric data corresponding to the input viewing
condition based on the selected colorimetric data.
4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting
step [selects] includes selecting colorimetric data by comparing a chromaticity of a light
source designated by the input viewing condition with chromaticities of the plurality of
light sources [of] to which the sets of colorimetric data correspond.
5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said selecting
step [selects] includes selecting colorimetric data by comparing a color temperature of a
light source designated by the input viewing condition with color temperatures of the
plurality [of] to which the sets of colorimetric data correspond.

6. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said conjecturing step [conjectures] includes conjecturing colorimetric data corresponding to the input viewing condition by using a color appearance model.

8. (Amended) An image processing method comprising the steps of:
obtaining [a profile having] a plurality of sets of colorimetric data which [depend on a plurality of] correspond to respective light sources;
inputting a viewing condition;
selecting colorimetric data from the plurality of sets of colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition; and
generating data for color matching corresponding to the input viewing condition based on the selected colorimetric data.

10. (Amended) The method according to claim 8 [7], wherein said selecting step selects colorimetric data by comparing a chromaticity of a light source designated by the input viewing condition with chromaticities of the plurality of light sources [of] to which the sets of colorimetric data correspond.

11. (Amended) The method according to claim 8 [7], wherein said selecting step [selects] includes selecting colorimetric data by comparing a color temperature of a light source designated by the input viewing condition with color

temperatures of the plurality of light sources [of] to which the sets of colorimetric data correspond.

12. (Amended) The method according to claim 8 [7], wherein said conjecturing step [conjectures] includes conjecturing colorimetric data corresponding to the input viewing condition by using a color appearance model.

13. (Amended) The method according to claim 8 [7], wherein the generated [conjectured colorimetric] data is cached to another [the] profile in correspondence with the input viewing condition.

14. (Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
an obtaining section, arranged to obtain [means for obtaining a profile having] a plurality of sets of colorimetric data which [depend on a plurality of] correspond to respective light sources;
an inputting section, arranged to input [means for inputting] a viewing condition;
a selector, arranged to select [selecting means for selecting] colorimetric data from the plurality of sets of colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition; and

a conjecturing section, arranged to conjecture [means for conjecturing] colorimetric data corresponding to the input viewing condition based on the selected colorimetric data.

15. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising a cache arranged to cache [caching means for caching] the conjectured colorimetric data to the profile.

16. (Amended) An image processing apparatus comprising:
an obtaining section, arranged to obtain [means for obtaining] a profile having a plurality of sets of colorimetric data which [depend on a plurality of] correspond to respective light sources;
an inputting section, arranged to input [means for inputting] a viewing condition;
a selector, arranged to select [selecting means for selecting] colorimetric data from the plurality of sets of colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition; and
a generator, arranged to generate [generation means for generating] data for color matching corresponding to the input viewing condition based on the selected colorimetric data.

17. (Amended) The apparatus according to claim 16, further comprising a caching section arranged to cache [means for caching] the generated data to the profile.

18. (Amended) A computer program product storing [comprising] a computer readable medium having computer program codes, for an image processing method, said product comprising process procedure codes for:

[obtaining process procedure code for] obtaining [a profile having] a plurality of sets of colorimetric data which [depend on a plurality of] correspond respectively light sources;

[input process procedure code for] inputting a viewing condition;

[selection process procedure code for] selecting colorimetric data from the plurality of sets of colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition; and

[conjecturing process procedure code for] conjecturing colorimetric data corresponding to the input viewing condition based on the selected colorimetric data.

20. (Amended) A computer program product storing [comprising] a computer readable medium having computer program codes, for an image processing method performing color process on input image data based on a color appearance model, said product comprising process procedure codes for:

[obtaining process procedure code for] obtaining a profile having a plurality of sets of colorimetric data which [depend on a plurality of] correspond to respective light sources;

[input process procedure code for] inputting a viewing condition;

[selection process procedure code for] selecting colorimetric data from the plurality of colorimetric data in accordance with the input viewing condition; and

[generation process procedure code for] generating data for color matching based on the selected colorimetric data.